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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/9/06

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Family Medicine Rural Residency Programs SB 489

ANALYST Lewis

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 221 (Expand Medical Residency Programs) Relates to HB 289 (Rural NM Chronic Medical Disease Treatment)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Department of Health (DOH)

Health Policy Commission (HPC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 489 appropriates \$300,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico to fund family medicine rural residency programs in Las Cruces, Roswell and Santa Fe.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Department of Health (DOH), the federal government has designated all or part of 31 New Mexico counties as Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas.

The Health Policy Commission (HPC) notes that SB 489 expands an innovative program within the Family Practice Department at the UNM School of Medicine that has had success in teaching residents who ultimately practice in underserved areas of the state.

The HPC adds that New Mexico has a serious physician shortage in all counties except Bernalillo and Los Alamos, and even in Bernalillo County there is a shortage of physicians in selected specialties. The Physician Supply in New Mexico study published in 2003 by the HPC showed that the state has 169 physicians per 100,000 population compared with a Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) recommended number of 240 per 100,000.

According to the Higher Education Department (HED), The UNM Health Science Center coordinates the Family Medicine Residency Program (FMRP) which has centers at the following locations:

- in Albuquerque at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM/HSC);
- in Las Cruces at the Memorial Medical Center Family Practice;
- in Roswell at Eastern New Mexico Family Practice Residency Program; and
- in Santa Fe at St. Vincent Hospital for the UNM-Santa Fe Rural Track Program.

HED notes that New Mexico is a rural, ethnically diverse state. Over 60 percent of the population resides in rural areas and the majority of the population is composed of ethnic minorities (43 percent Hispanic, 10 percent Native American and 2 percent African-American). UNM/HSC's family medicine rural residency programs aim to provide high-quality primary care while giving residents experience practicing rural medicine. The FMRP places a special emphasis on education, service and research aimed at meeting the unique needs of New Mexico's diverse populations.

This request was not on the list of priority projects submitted by UNM/HSC to the HED for review and was not included the HED's funding recommendation for FY07.

ML/yr